IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-29 (Canceled).

Claim 30 (Currently Amended): A method to improve fatigue resistance of a threaded tubular connection subjected to stress variations, the method comprising:

providing a male tubular element including a tapered male threading, and

providing a female tubular element including a tapered female threading that cooperates with the male threading by makeup to produce a rigid mutual connection of the male and female tubular elements with radial interference between radial load transfer zones of the male and female threadings,

wherein the male and female threadings each have a load flank extending substantially perpendicularly to an axis of the male and female threadings, and wherein the radial load transfer zones are at a radial distance from envelopes of thread roots of the male and female threadings and form an angle of less than 40° with the axis of the male and female threadings,

wherein the radial load transfer zones are ramps constituting stabbing flanks of the male and female threadings over a major portion of a radial height thereof,

wherein a profile of the male threading includes a first concave rounded portion defining the thread root and tangential to the ramp, and

wherein the profile of the male threading includes a second concave rounded portion with a smaller radius of curvature than the first rounded portion and tangential thereto and to the load flank.

Claims 31-43 (Canceled).

Claim 44 (Currently Amended): A method according to claim [[43]] 30, ~~in which~~ wherein an angle between the ramps and the axis of the threadings is in a range of 20° to 40°.

Claim 45 (Currently Amended): A method according to claim [[43]] 30, ~~in which~~ wherein an angle between the ramps and the axis of the threadings is about 27°.

Claims 46-47 (Canceled).

Claim 48 (Currently Amended): A method according to claim [[43]] 30, ~~in which~~ wherein a groove defining the female thread root extends axially from a first wall constituted by the load flank to a second wall connected to the ramp of the female threading.

Claim 49 (Currently Amended): A method according to claim 48, ~~in which~~ wherein a profile of the groove includes a central concave rounded portion framed by first and second rounded concave portions respectively tangential to the first and second walls and with a smaller radius of curvature than the central rounded portion.

Claim 50 (Currently Amended): A method according to claim 48, ~~in which~~ wherein a profile of the female threading includes a convex rounded portion tangential to a second rounded portion and to the ramp, a zone of inflexion between the convex rounded portion and the second rounded portion constituting the second wall.

Claim 51 (Currently Amended): A method according to claim 30, ~~in which~~ wherein the radial load transfer zones are provided in a zone of full height threads or of threads termed perfect threads.

Claim 52 (Currently Amended): A method according to claim 51, ~~in which~~ wherein the radial load transfer zones are also provided in a zone of imperfect threads, or in a zone of run-out threads.

Claims 53-56 (Canceled).

Claim 57 (Currently Amended): A threaded tubular connection for implementing the method according to claim [[46]] 30, comprising a male tubular element including a tapered male threading, and a female tubular element including a tapered female threading that cooperates with the male threading by makeup to produce a rigid mutual connection of the tubular elements with radial interference between radial load transfer zones of the threadings, ~~in which~~ wherein the radial load transfer zones are ramps constituting the stabbing flanks of the male and female threadings over the major portion of the radial height thereof, and the profile of the male threading including a first concave rounded portion defining the thread root and tangential to the ramp.

Claim 58 (Currently Amended ): A threaded tubular connection for implementing the method according to claim 48, comprising a male tubular element including a tapered male threading, and a female tubular element including a tapered female threading that cooperates

with the male threading by makeup to produce a rigid mutual connection of the tubular elements with radial interference between radial load transfer zones of the threadings, ~~in which~~ wherein the radial load transfer zones are ramps constituting the stabbing flanks of the male and female threadings over the major portion of the radial height thereof and a groove defining the female thread root extends axially from a first wall constituted by the load flank to a second wall that is connected to the ramp of the female threading.

Claim 59 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 30, wherein the load flanks of the male and female threadings are in contact on at least two consecutive threads.

Claim 60 (Previously Presented): A pipe string component that connects an offshore platform with a sea bed that includes a threaded tubular connection for implementing the method according to claim 30, comprising:

a male tubular element including a tapered male threading, and

a female tubular element including a tapered female threading that cooperates with the male threading by makeup to produce a rigid mutual connection of the tubular elements with radial interference between radial load transfer zones of the threadings,

wherein the radial load transfer zones are ramps constituting the stabbing flanks of the male and female threadings over a major portion of a radial height thereof.

Claim 61 (New): A method to improve fatigue resistance of a threaded tubular connection subjected to stress variations, the method comprising:

providing a male tubular element including a tapered male threading, and

providing a female tubular element including a tapered female threading that cooperates with the male threading by makeup to produce a rigid mutual connection of the male and female tubular elements with radial interference between radial load transfer zones of the male and female threadings,

wherein the male and female threadings each have a load flank extending substantially perpendicularly to an axis of the male and female threadings, and wherein the radial load transfer zones are at a radial distance from envelopes of thread roots of the male and female threadings and form an angle of less than 40° with the axis of the male and female threadings,

wherein the radial load transfer zones are ramps constituting stabbing flanks of the male and female threadings over a major portion of a radial height thereof,

wherein a groove defining the female thread root extends axially from a first wall constituted by the load flank to a second wall connected to the ramp of the female threading, and

wherein a profile of the groove includes a central concave rounded portion framed by first and second rounded concave portions respectively tangential to the first and second walls and with a smaller radius of curvature than the central rounded portion.

Claim 62 (New): A method according to claim 61, wherein an angle between the ramps and the axis of the threadings is in a range of 20° to 40°.

Claim 63 (New): A method according to claim 61, wherein an angle between the ramps and the axis of the threadings is about 27°.

Claim 64 (New): A method according to claim 61, wherein a profile of the female threading includes a convex rounded portion tangential to a second rounded portion and to the ramp, a zone of inflexion between the convex rounded portion and the second rounded portion constituting the second wall.

Claim 65 (New): A method according to claim 61, wherein the radial load transfer zones are provided in a zone of full height threads or of threads termed perfect threads.

Claim 66 (New): A method according to claim 65, wherein the radial load transfer zones are also provided in a zone of imperfect threads, or in a zone of run-out threads.

Claim 67 (New): A threaded tubular connection for implementing the method according to claim 61, comprising a male tubular element including a tapered male threading, and a female tubular element including a tapered female threading that cooperates with the male threading by makeup to produce a rigid mutual connection of the tubular elements with radial interference between radial load transfer zones of the threadings, wherein the radial load transfer zones are ramps constituting the stabbing flanks of the male and female threadings over the major portion of the radial height thereof, and the profile of the male threading including a first concave rounded portion defining the thread root and tangential to the ramp.

Claim 68 (New): A threaded tubular connection for implementing the method according to claim 64, comprising a male tubular element including a tapered male threading, and a female tubular element including a tapered female threading that cooperates with the male threading by makeup to produce a rigid mutual connection of the tubular elements with radial interference between radial load transfer zones of the threadings, wherein the radial load transfer zones are ramps constituting the stabbing flanks of the male and female threadings over the major portion of the radial height thereof and a groove defining the female thread root extends axially from a first wall constituted by the load flank to a second wall that is connected to the ramp of the female threading.

Claim 69 (New): A method according to claim 61, wherein the load flanks of the male and female threadings are in contact on at least two consecutive threads.

Claim 70 (New): A pipe string component that connects an offshore platform with a sea bed that includes a threaded tubular connection for implementing the method according to claim 31, comprising:

a male tubular element including a tapered male threading, and

a female tubular element including a tapered female threading that cooperates with the male threading by makeup to produce a rigid mutual connection of the tubular elements with radial interference between radial load transfer zones of the threadings,

wherein the radial load transfer zones are ramps constituting the stabbing flanks of the male and female threadings over a major portion of a radial height thereof.

Claim 71 (New): A method to improve fatigue resistance of a threaded tubular connection subjected to stress variations, the method comprising:

providing a male tubular element including a tapered male threading, and

providing a female tubular element including a tapered female threading that cooperates with the male threading by makeup to produce a rigid mutual connection of the male and female tubular elements with radial interference between radial load transfer zones of the male and female threadings,

wherein the male and female threadings each have a load flank extending substantially perpendicularly to an axis of the male and female threadings, and wherein the radial load transfer zones are at a radial distance from envelopes of thread roots of the male and female threadings and form an angle of less than 40° with the axis of the male and female threadings,

wherein the radial load transfer zones are ramps constituting stabbing flanks of the male and female threadings over a major portion of a radial height thereof,

wherein a groove defining the female thread root extends axially from a first wall constituted by the load flank to a second wall connected to the ramp of the female threading, and

wherein a profile of the female threading includes a convex rounded portion tangential to a second rounded portion and to the ramp, a zone of inflexion between the convex rounded portion and the second rounded portion constituting the second wall.

Claim 72 (New): A method according to claim 71, wherein an angle between the ramps and the axis of the threadings is in a range of 20° to 40°.

Claim 73 (New): A method according to claim 71, wherein an angle between the ramps and the axis of the threadings is about 27°.

Claim 74 (New): A method according to claim 71, wherein a profile of the groove includes a central concave rounded portion framed by first and second rounded concave portions respectively tangential to the first and second walls and with a smaller radius of curvature than the central rounded portion.

Claim 75 (New): A method according to claim 71, wherein the radial load transfer zones are provided in a zone of full height threads or of threads termed perfect threads.

Claim 76 (New): A method according to claim 75, wherein the radial load transfer zones are also provided in a zone of imperfect threads, or in a zone of run-out threads.

Claim 77 (New): A threaded tubular connection for implementing the method according to claim 71, comprising a male tubular element including a tapered male threading, and a female tubular element including a tapered female threading that cooperates with the male threading by makeup to produce a rigid mutual connection of the tubular elements with radial interference between radial load transfer zones of the threadings, wherein the radial load transfer zones are ramps constituting the stabbing flanks of the male and female threadings over the major portion of the radial height thereof, and the profile of the male threading including a first concave rounded portion defining the thread root and tangential to the ramp.

Claim 78 (New): A method according to claim 71, wherein the load flanks of the male and female threadings are in contact on at least two consecutive threads.

Claim 79 (New): A pipe string component that connects an offshore platform with a sea bed that includes a threaded tubular connection for implementing the method according to claim 71, comprising:

a male tubular element including a tapered male threading, and

a female tubular element including a tapered female threading that cooperates with the male threading by makeup to produce a rigid mutual connection of the tubular elements with radial interference between radial load transfer zones of the threadings,

wherein the radial load transfer zones are ramps constituting the stabbing flanks of the male and female threadings over a major portion of a radial height thereof.